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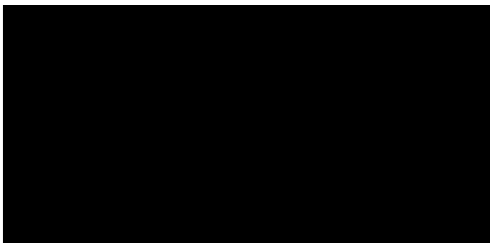
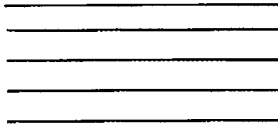
Director of Central Intelligence

CIA|CPAS...|NID 96-301CX...



National Intelligence Daily

Friday, 27 December 1996



~~Top Secret~~

CPAS NID 96-0301CX
27 December 1996

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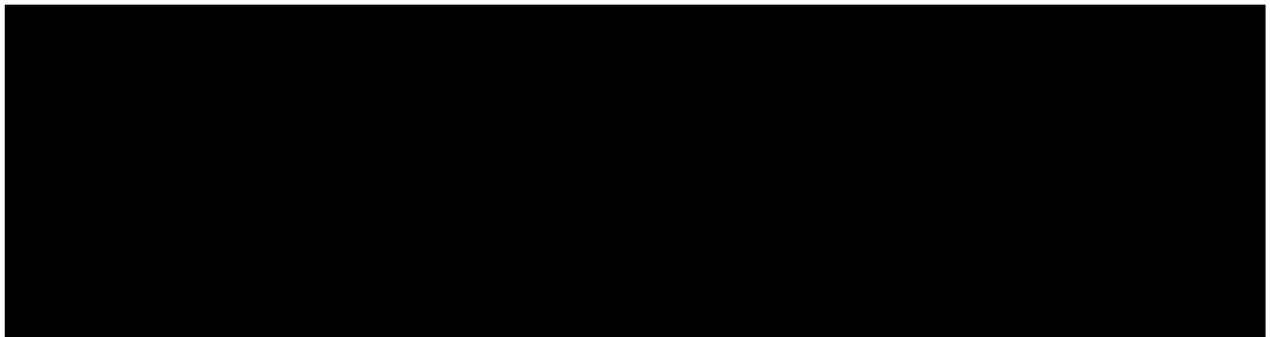
Current Notes

Americas

Peru: Troubled by Uruguayan Release of MRTA Prisoners



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Current Notes

AMERICAS

Peru:

Troubled by Uruguayan Release of MRTA Prisoners [REDACTED]

Peru has recalled its Acting Chief of Mission in Montevideo to protest Uruguay's release of the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement (MRTA) prisoners there. *Lima is concerned that the release will damage its position of refusing to negotiate with the terrorists. President Fujimori's continued refusal of advice and assistance from other governments and his refusal to meet with almost everyone except his closest advisers may be reducing confidence in Peru's ability to manage the situation. That, in turn, may lead other governments to search on their own for ways to win the release of their countrymen.*

- The Guatemalan Ambassador who was released yesterday said the guerrillas freed him in acknowledgment of the peace accord the Guatemalan Government is scheduled to sign on Sunday to end the civil war with leftist rebels in that country.
- Although Japanese Prime Minister Hashimoto condemned Montevideo's action, Japanese companies have paid ransoms in past hostage situations.
- Bolivian Interior Minister Anaya yesterday publicly ruled out freedom for the four MRTA prisoners La Paz holds, but he noted that their fate is up to Bolivia's independent judiciary. [REDACTED]

Chilean newspapers reported during the weekend that someone claiming to represent the Chilean terrorist group Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front (FPMR) threatened attacks against the US, Japanese, and Peruvian Embassies in Santiago if Lima tries forcefully to resolve the crisis.

- [REDACTED] the MRTA maintains contact with the FPMR, which may provide logistic support and weapons training. [REDACTED]